

SCIENTIFIC STUDIES SEEN ENDANGERED

Anthropologists Warned in

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An important group of social scientists was told here last night that attempts to do part-time undercover work for the government could work against the long-range interests of the United States.

Prof. Ralph Beals, an anthropologist with the University of California at Los Angeles, said he believes some anthropologists may have done part-time intelligence work while retaining their positions as university faculty members.

But he added:

"I can't prove that."

Beals has completed a nationwide study of the relationships between his profession and intelligence operations.

He reported his findings here at a meeting of 2500 to 3000 anthropologists—scientists who study human cultures, mankind's remote past, and racial characteristics.

His report is expected to serve as a basis for guidelines to be drawn up by the American Anthropological Association during its four-day annual meeting at the Hilton Hotel. Actions taken by the group are to be made public late tomorrow or Sunday.

In an interview, Beals said his report cites nationwide discontent among anthropologists because of restrictions on their work overseas.

He said the social scientists are ham-

Spying

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pered by regulations controlling dissemination and discussion of research findings, disclosure of the identities of research sponsors and even disclosure of the purposes of the research.

Beals said he believes some anthropologists are being "seduced into undercover work" by offers of grants from phony foundations—"from organizations who need information, although they are not necessarily related to government."

Creating Suspicious Overseas

Such actions, he said, are creating suspicion of anthropologists in many overseas countries.

"We have to have the confidence of the people we're studying, and we can't get it if they think we're spies," he declared.

Beals said he found hints that some CIA men had posed as anthropologists, but added that "much of this is in the domain of rumor."

Beals noted that the United States Government uses information obtained by anthropologists and hires some on a part-time basis.

Consequently, he said, government should also give more support to anthropology in the area of basic research, training, and by "not doing things that hurt anthropologists" (such as restricting their access to other countries).

Solution in Changing Titles

The entire problem was brought into focus last year when the Army's \$4 million Project Camelot, a study of how Communists capitalize on revolutionary change in developing countries, was widely criticized and eventually canceled.

The project, to have been carried out in Chile, was described as a study of "insurgency and counter-insurgency."

Beals said he thinks part of the problem could have been solved by changing the project's description to "problems of conflict and conflict resolution."

Few anthropologists were involved in Project Camelot, Beals said, but he added that the problems it represented are of interest to all universities doing research in social science fields overseas.

A similar problem cropped up last April when Michigan State University was linked to CIA operations in Viet Nam. The university allegedly served as a front for CIA agents while engaged in a multi-million-dollar project advising the government of former Viet Nam president Ngo Dinh Diem.

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